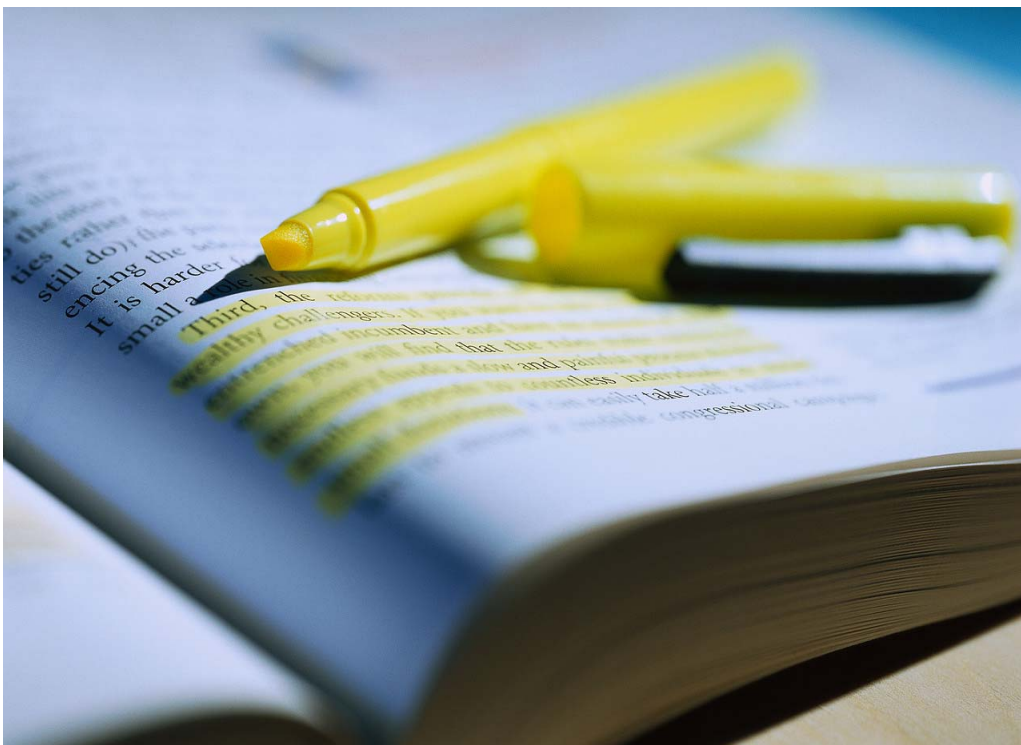


South Carolina Public Colleges and Universities Mission Statements



Indicator 1C, Mission Focus, Approval of a Mission Statement

Measure: Mission statement with defined characteristics will be approved by the Commission on Higher Education on a five-year cycle.

Mission statements were initially approved in 1998 for all institutions. For complete measurement details, see Performance Funding Workbook, November 2002 as revised October 2003, pp. II.23-II.27. This process was revised with the CHE's approval on October 6, 2005 of new guidelines for the review and approval of institutional mission statements.

Clemson University

Vision Statement

Clemson will be one of the nation's top-20 public universities.

Mission Statement

The mission of Clemson University is to fulfill the covenant between its founder and the people of South Carolina to establish a "high seminary of learning" through its historical land-grant responsibilities of teaching, research and extended public service.

Clemson University is a selective, public, land-grant university in a college-town setting along a dynamic Southeastern corridor. The University is committed to world-class teaching, research and public service in the context of general education, student development and continuing education. Clemson's desire is to attract a capable, dedicated and diverse student body of approximately 12,000 to 14,000 undergraduate and 4,000 to 5,000 graduate students, with priority to students from South Carolina.

Clemson offers a wide array of high-quality baccalaureate programs built around a distinctive core curriculum. Graduate and continuing education offerings respond to the professions, while doctoral and research programs contribute to the economic future of the state, nation and world. The University emphasizes agriculture, architecture, business, education, engineering, natural resources, science and technology. The University also promotes excellence in education and scholarship in selected areas of the creative arts, health, human development, the humanities and social sciences. In all areas, the goal is to develop students' communication and critical-thinking skills, ethical judgment, global awareness, and scientific and technological knowledge. Students remain the primary focus of the University.

Just as Clemson values its students, the University also values its faculty and staff who have committed their talents and careers to advance its mission. Clemson pledges to support their work, to encourage their professional development, to evaluate their professional performance and to compensate them at nationally competitive levels.

(Approved by the Clemson University Board of Trustees, January 26, 2001.)

University of South Carolina

Mission

The primary mission of the University of South Carolina, a multi-campus public institution serving the entire state of South Carolina, is the education of the state's diverse citizens through teaching, research and creative activity, and service.

Teaching

The University is committed to providing its students with the highest-quality education, including the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for success and responsible citizenship in a complex and changing world. A particular strength of the University of South Carolina is the excellence, breadth, and diversity of the institution's faculty.

Research

Convinced that research and scholarship, including artistic creation, are essential for excellent teaching, the University pursues aggressively an active research and scholarship program. The University is dedicated to using research to improve the quality of life for South Carolinians.

Service

Another important facet of the University's public mission is service -- to its community, state, nation, and the world in such areas as public health, education, social issues, economic development, and family support systems.

Founded in 1801 in Columbia, the University of South Carolina began providing programs in communities statewide in the 1950s and 1960s. At that time, a network of campuses was established in response to community initiative and support for accessible, affordable educational programs principally for local citizens. In the 1970s, the Aiken and Spartanburg (now USC Upstate) senior campuses were granted the authority to award baccalaureate degrees. The Beaufort campus was given this same authority in 2002. While the regional campuses, the senior campuses, and the Columbia campus all pursue teaching, research, creative activity, and service, each does so with an emphasis suited to its individual campus mission.

Flagship Campus in Columbia

As a major teaching and research institution, USC, located in the state capital in Columbia, has long offered a comprehensive range of undergraduate and graduate programs through the doctoral level. With a mission of teaching, research, and service, USC addresses the state's needs for master's level, professional, and doctoral education, for conducting and sharing research, and for responding to statewide and regional demands for educational resources and professional expertise.

The University of South Carolina aspires to national and international stature as it provides equitable access to its opportunities, resources, and activities.

Senior Campuses

Separately accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Aiken, Beaufort, and Upstate take as their primary mission the delivery of basic undergraduate

education to their respective areas. These senior campuses also offer graduate-level coursework through the University's Extended Graduate Campus program, and sometimes offer master's degree programs in response to regional demand.

Regional Campuses

Accredited with USC Columbia by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the regional campuses in Lancaster, Allendale (Salkehatchie), Sumter, and Union principally provide the first two years of undergraduate education, as well as selected associate degree programs mainly for their locales. The regional campuses also provide for the completion of bachelor degrees by offering selected upper-division course work in conjunction with the Aiken, Beaufort, Columbia, and Upstate campuses, as well as some graduate education through the University's Extended Graduate Campus program. In addition to providing these programs, the regional campuses bring the resources of the entire University to citizens throughout the state.

Approved by the Board of Trustees (June 30, 2004)

Medical University of South Carolina

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) is a public institution of higher learning the purpose of which is to preserve and optimize human life in South Carolina and beyond. The university provides an environment for learning and discovery through education of health care professionals and biomedical scientists, research in the health sciences and provision of comprehensive health care. The university is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities:

- To educate students to become caring, compassionate, ethical, and proficient health care professionals and creative biomedical scientists;
- To recruit and develop dedicated, scholarly teachers who inspire their students to life-long learning in the service of human health;
- To offer educational opportunities to graduates, faculty and staff, to other biomedical scientists and practicing health professionals, and to the public;
- To seek and welcome students, scholars, and staff regardless of gender, race, age, nationality, religion or disability, recognizing the benefits of diversity;
- To conduct research in the health sciences, advancing knowledge and encouraging new responses to health care needs;
- To provide excellence in patient care, in an environment that is respectful of others, adaptive to change, accountable for outcomes, and attentive to the needs of underserved populations;
- To advance economic development by introducing new technology and fostering research links with industry and other academic institutions;
- To optimize the use of all resources, including the financial support from the state and revenues generated from research, clinical operations, and philanthropy;
- To provide leadership to the state in efforts to promote health and prevent disease;
- To serve as a state resource in health policy, education, and related matters for other institutions and the general public.

The Citadel

Statement of Vision

Achieving excellence in the education of principled leaders.

Core Values

Academics: We produce graduates who have insight into the issues, ideas and values that are important to society and possess the skills necessary to deal with them successfully.

Duty: We emphasize the importance of individual accountability and the moral obligation of responsibility for the welfare of others.

Honor: We adhere to a code which teaches that uncompromising personal integrity is the primary guide in all situations.

Morality: We believe that an individual's character is of utmost importance and, therefore, we provide training which emphasizes ethical principles and core values.

Discipline: We operate a leadership laboratory which emphasizes a structured environment, acceptance of responsibility, self-confidence and service to others.

Diversity: We promote diversity in all segments of our campus community and in all aspects of college life.

Mission

The Citadel's mission is to educate and prepare graduates to become principled leaders in all walks of life by instilling the core values of The Citadel in a challenging intellectual environment.

The Citadel strives to produce graduates who have insight into issues, ideas, and values that are of importance to society. It is equally important that Citadel graduates are capable of both critical and creative thinking, have effective communication skills, can apply abstract concepts to concrete situations, and possess the methodological skills needed to gather and analyze information.

Throughout its history, The Citadel's primary purpose has been to educate undergraduates as members of the South Carolina Corps of Cadets and to prepare them for post-graduate positions of leadership through academic programs of recognized excellence supported by the best features of a structured military environment. The cadet lifestyle provides a disciplined environment that supports the growth and development of character, physical fitness, and moral and ethical principles.

A complementary purpose of The Citadel, realized through the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, is to provide the citizens of the Lowcountry and the State of South Carolina opportunities for professional development by offering a broad range of educational programs of recognized excellence at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. These programs are designed to accommodate the needs of non-traditional students seeking traditional and demanding academic challenges.

Institutional Characteristics

The Citadel is a coeducational, comprehensive, state-assisted, four-year institution whose primary undergraduate student body consists of approximately 1,900 members of the Corps of Cadets, all of whom reside on campus. The primary service area for these students is regional, with approximately half of each freshman class coming from South Carolina. The Citadel, however, does draw undergraduate students from all parts of the United States and many foreign countries. The college offers a wide range of baccalaureate degree programs (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering) in the humanities, social and natural sciences, business administration, engineering, and education. These academic programs prepare graduates of the Corps of Cadets for a variety of careers; about half of these graduates enter business and the professions, a third or more enter the military and government service, and the remainder go directly into graduate and professional study. Many graduates choose to pursue professional or graduate degrees later in their careers.

Through its undergraduate and graduate programs, the College of Graduate and Professional Studies serves a degree-seeking population of approximately 2,000. The primary service area is the South Carolina Lowcountry. The College of Graduate and Professional Studies offers three baccalaureate degree programs (Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering) and seven graduate degree programs (Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Business Administration, and Specialist in Education). Meeting the needs of the South Carolina Lowcountry in terms of instruction, public service, and research, including such initiatives as cooperative programs with other educational institutions, is an important part of The Citadel's mission.

Together, the Corps of Cadets and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies enroll approximately 4,000 students, about three-fourths of whom come from South Carolina.

In its educational programs, The Citadel acknowledges and endorses the teacher-scholar ideal, recognizing that the excellence of all of its academic programs is dependent upon the quality of its faculty. This ideal is pursued through teaching and lecturing, researching, writing, publishing, and public service. The Citadel's faculty also addresses audiences beyond the college by sharing their knowledge with other scholars and with the public.

Coastal Carolina University

Coastal Carolina University is a public mid-sized (4,000-6,500 students), comprehensive liberal arts institution offering baccalaureate degrees in the traditional liberal arts and sciences, interdisciplinary studies, and professional schools, along with Master's degrees in several specialized areas. Located in one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation, the campus primarily serves its immediate five-county area, while honoring its commitment to the citizens of Horry County who founded the University and continue to provide funding to it. Recognizing its responsibility to ensure a student population that is diverse both culturally and geographically, the institution also aggressively recruits statewide, out-of-state, and internationally.

Coastal Carolina is a community of students and teacher-scholars dedicated to the pursuit of wisdom and goodness in an environment where intellectual understanding is encouraged, individual dignity respected, and creativity stimulated. The University seeks to provide a rational view of the world and human experience through student-centered participatory learning to help students make intelligent and informed decisions as free and active citizens in modern society. To this end, the institution affords opportunities for personal development and provides a common grounding in the Western intellectual tradition. Anticipated acquired skills and knowledge include the ability to express oneself effectively both orally and in writing, to locate and process information, to reason analytically and abstractly, to interpret and evaluate scientific evidence, to demonstrate competency in the use of modern technology, and to appreciate accomplishments in the arts. Attitudes ideally to be developed embrace a sense of ethics, honesty, truth, and justice, a willingness to accept responsibility for one's own actions and choices, an appreciation for work and self-discipline, an appreciation of and desire for lifelong learning, and a respect and tolerance for the ideas, values, and opinions of others. As a major intellectual and cultural center for the Waccamaw region, the University enriches the quality of life through the performing and fine arts, community service, external programs, distance learning, continuing education programs, and the encouragement of faculty development and research, especially in problem areas that are indigenous. Recognizing regional needs, the campus provides Master's degrees in several areas for professional advancement. In its public service role, the institution is a major resource in the economic and intellectual development of the region, urging faculty participation on local boards and councils, and providing research and consulting services to local businesses, non-profit agencies, and governmental bodies. The University facilitates student participation in the community through internships, community service, and cooperative learning, as part of a comprehensive educational experience that renders students competitive for entry-level jobs or graduate and professional training leading to practical and productive careers in business, the public service, the professions, and education.

Toward this accomplishment of its mission, Coastal Carolina covenants its cooperation with its sister public institutions, with the public schools, with the business community, and with elected and appointed officials who are responsible to the voting public for the oversight and governance of post-secondary education. The University understands that such cooperation necessarily includes coordination of programs and activities, along with a duty to use public funding efficiently and effectively to make its offerings both affordable and accessible. The institution also recognizes the fact that any public funds appropriated to it must be considered as an investment in the betterment of society, with the anticipated returns being an enlightened populace and economic growth.

(Approved by the Board of Trustees at the April 18, 1997 Meeting)

College of Charleston

The College of Charleston is a state supported comprehensive institution providing a high quality education in the arts and sciences, education and business. Consistent with its heritage since its founding in 1770, the College retains a strong liberal arts undergraduate curriculum. Located in the heart of historic Charleston, it strives to meet the growing educational demands primarily of the Lowcountry and the state and, secondarily, of the Southeast. A superior quality undergraduate program, enrolling 8000 to 9000 students, is central to the mission of the College.

The College of Charleston seeks applicants capable of successfully completing degree requirements and pays particular attention to identifying and admitting students who excel academically. The College of Charleston serves a diverse student body from its geographical area and also attracts students from national and international communities. The College provides students a community in which to engage in original inquiry and creative expression in an atmosphere of intellectual freedom. This community, founded on the principles of the liberal arts tradition, provides students the opportunity to realize their intellectual and personal potential and to become responsible, productive members of society.

In addition to offering a broad range of baccalaureate degree programs, the College currently provides an increasing number of masters degree programs which are compatible with the community and the state. As a prominent component of the state's higher education system, the College encourages and supports research. Its faculty are important sources of knowledge and expertise for the community, state, and nation. Additionally, the College provides an extensive credit and non-credit continuing education program and cultural activities for residents of the Lowcountry of South Carolina.

Francis Marion University

Francis Marion University is a four-year public institution established by the state of South Carolina. It is located in the northeastern part of the state near the city of Florence and has approximately 4000 students. Its purpose is threefold: to provide students with an excellent education, stimulate inquiry and research, and serve the Pee Dee region of South Carolina.

Francis Marion University adheres to the primary purpose of its establishment as a college in 1970: to make available excellent undergraduate education in the liberal arts and selected professional programs. The university now offers Bachelors degrees in Liberal Arts disciplines, Business, Education, and Nursing, as well as Masters degrees in professional programs in Business, Education, and Psychology. While maintaining high standards, we serve students with a broad range of preparation and ability. We seek a wide variety of students, primarily from the Pee Dee region, but also from the entire state, other states, and foreign countries. We believe that a student body diverse in age, racial and ethnic background, and country of origin enriches the education of our students. To achieve its educational goals, the university has outstanding faculty members distinguished by high achievement and diverse academic background. We provide traditional classroom and laboratory instruction, access to an excellent library as well as electronic resources, and staff members committed to the success of the individual student. A low student-faculty ratio and faculty concern for the individual student help us to achieve our goal. In addition, the university provides students with special learning opportunities, such as an honors program, internships, study abroad, and cooperative degree programs.

Since our highest priority is excellence in teaching and learning, we believe that intellectual inquiry and analysis by students and faculty members is essential. We encourage all scholarly pursuits, including student research for courses and faculty research for presentation and publication as well as the classroom. The university provides faculty members with support for academic development, such as research funds. Our goal of an academic experience built on inquiry and research as well as the transmission of information allows students to develop their ability to think and communicate, to gain the knowledge and skills to pursue a career or further study, to appreciate the creativeness of the human mind, to be aware of the human and natural environment of the world, and to have the capacity to pursue a life of learning and understanding.

The university also attempts to serve the needs of Florence and the surrounding area in ways beyond formal education. Our numerous cultural activities and athletic programs benefit not only students, but also the community. To foster the economic development of the region, we offer consulting services to business, industry, and government. Academic and practical assistance to area schools is basic to our endeavors. Faculty and staff members participate in and contribute to a great variety of community activities.

Francis Marion is a unique university. It focuses on traditional liberal arts education, but provides new technology and new academic programs. It is small enough to provide individualized attention to each student, but large enough to offer much variety in academic and cultural resources. It thus combines the advantages of a small liberal arts college with the resources of a public university.

Approved by FMU General Faculty on November 28, 2006
Approved by FMU Board of Trustees on February 2, 2007

Lander University

Grounded in the belief that education is a liberating force which makes it possible for the individual to live a life of meaningful activity, of personal satisfaction, and of service to others as a neighbor and a citizen, Lander University has chosen teaching and learning as its principal concerns and providing a challenging education for qualified students as its mission. Through its liberal arts programs and its professional schools of business, education, and nursing, the University offers an undergraduate curriculum that combines a broad liberal education with specialized study leading either to immediate application in a career or to more advanced study. The undergraduate programs provide opportunities for students to achieve competence in a major discipline and to explore a broad core curriculum designed to assist them in developing the ability (1) to gather and critically analyze information from a variety of fields and to use that information as a basis for reasoned judgments and for effective problem solving, (2) to synthesize diverse ideas and information, and (3) to understand and convey ideas clearly. In addition to its undergraduate programs, Lander provides a limited number of master's programs and post-graduate courses that respond to critical needs of the immediate region and the State.

Supporting the University's role as a teaching institution and recognizing that scholarship is essential to establishing and maintaining excellence of instruction, Lander faculty engage in scholarly and creative activities appropriate to their teaching fields. In addition, the faculty and staff recognize Lander's responsibility to the public and to the local economy; therefore the University serves as an intellectual and cultural center and cooperates with various agencies, schools, and businesses.

The University, situated near the center of Greenwood, a small South Carolina city, combines urban with rural and traditional with modern features. Proud of its identity as a small, student-centered public four-year university with a nurturing educational environment, Lander is committed to gradual but limited growth to a size of approximately 3300-3500 students.

Because student success depends in large part upon readiness, the University reserves admission to those students who can demonstrate adequate preparation for higher education either through a predicted GPA or through previous success at another post-secondary institution. While Lander serves primarily students from a seven county area (Greenwood, Laurens, Edgefield, Abbeville, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda) and reflects the demographic diversity of this constituency, it strives to draw students from every region of South Carolina as well as from other states and foreign countries because a geographically diverse population better serves the educational interests of all students enrolled. Lander predominately attracts qualified traditional full-time students but also welcomes non-traditional and part-time students.

Lander University's commitment to extending educational opportunities to these varying constituencies reflects its belief that citizens of a free society have a right to the enriching benefits of higher education.

Approved by the Lander University Faculty: March 19, 1997

Approved by the Lander University Board of Trustees: March 20, 1997

South Carolina State University

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, a senior comprehensive teaching institution, is committed to providing affordable and accessible quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs. This public university with a student population between 4,000 and 5,000 is located in Orangeburg, an area that has a traditional rural, agricultural economy which has expanded to include a business and industrial focus that is national and international in scope. South Carolina State University's 1890 land-grant legacy of service to the citizenry of the state is ensured through its collaborative efforts with local, rural, and statewide businesses, public education, colleges and industry. This symbiotic relationship provides a catalyst that spurs a reciprocal economic and social growth for the University, state, nation and the international community at-large.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, founded in 1896 as a historically Black co-educational institution, embraces diversity among its students, faculty, staff and programs. While maintaining its traditional focus, the University is fully committed to providing life-long learning opportunities for the citizens of the state and qualified students of varied talents and backgrounds in a caring and nurturing learning environment.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY through instruction, research and service activities, prepares highly skilled, competent, economically and socially aware graduates to meet life's challenges and demands that enable them to work and live productively in a dynamic, global society. The University offers sixty baccalaureate programs in the areas of applied professional sciences, engineering technology, sciences, arts, humanities, education and business. A small number of programs are offered at the master's level in teaching, human services and agribusiness, and the educational specialist and doctorate programs are offered in educational administration. Faculty and students participate in research that stimulates intellectual growth, enhances and facilitates student learning and adds to the scientific knowledge base of the academy. Service activities, which are provided through programs, related to agriculture, adult and continuing education, research, cultural arts, small business development and other special interest areas, are designed to enhance the quality of life and promote economic growth. These efforts, supported by various applications of technology, are achieved in a climate of mutual trust and respect through methods of scholarly inquiry and scientific research.

The **SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY** Mission Statement was approved by its Board of Trustees on December 2, 1997.

University of South Carolina Aiken

Founded in 1961, the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) is a comprehensive liberal arts institution committed to active learning through excellence in teaching, faculty and student scholarship, research, creative activities and service. In this stimulating academic community, USCA challenges students to acquire and develop the skills, knowledge, and values necessary for success in a dynamic global environment.

The university offers degrees in the arts and sciences and in the professional disciplines of business, education, and nursing. All courses of study are grounded in a liberal arts and sciences core curriculum. USCA also encourages interdisciplinary studies and collaborative endeavors.

Emphasizing small classes and individual attention, USCA provides students with opportunities to maximize individual achievement in both academic and co-curricular settings. The institution challenges students to think critically and creatively, to communicate effectively, to learn independently, and to acquire depth of knowledge in chosen fields. The university values honesty, integrity, initiative, hard work, accomplishments, responsible citizenship, respect for diversity, and cross-cultural understanding.

USC Aiken attracts students of varying ages and diverse cultural backgrounds who have demonstrated the potential to succeed in a challenging academic environment. In addition to serving the Savannah River area, USCA actively seeks student enrollment from all parts of South Carolina as well as from other states and countries.

As a senior public institution of the University of South Carolina, USCA combines the advantages of a smaller institution with the resources of a major university system. Located in beautiful, historic Aiken, South Carolina, USCA is an institution of moderate size (2,500-5,000 students) that offers baccalaureate degrees in a number of disciplines, an associate degree in Nursing, completion baccalaureate degrees at University of South Carolina regional campuses, and master's degrees in selected programs.

USCA endeavors to apply knowledge, skills, and wisdom in ways that promote the common good. Accordingly, the university seeks to build strong community ties. The institution enriches the quality of life not only on campus but also throughout the surrounding region through a variety of activities including the fine and performing arts, athletics, continuing education, distance learning, and community service. In fulfilling its role as an institution of higher learning, the University of South Carolina Aiken is a community of individuals engaged in broadly based educational experiences necessary for an enlightened society.

University of South Carolina Beaufort

The University of South Carolina Beaufort, a small (1,000 to 3,000 students/fall headcount enrollment) senior campus of the state's largest public university, brings the University of South Carolina's statewide mission of teaching, research, scholarship, and public service to the rapidly growing Lowcountry of South Carolina. USCB offers baccalaureate degrees that respond to regional needs, draw upon regional strengths, and prepare graduates to participate successfully in communities here and around the globe. The campus also supports the USC Extended Graduate Campus, which provides local access to graduate courses and programs.

USCB offers programs in mathematics and the natural sciences, humanities, and professional and social sciences. Its curriculum is designed to promote acquisition of knowledge and, through it, the intellectual dispositions and skills that encourage depth of understanding, tolerance of others and individual accountability. Attracting a racially and culturally diverse student body of varying ages and experiences, the University of South Carolina Beaufort draws its students primarily from the South Carolina Lowcountry, with representation from other parts of the state, other states, and foreign countries. The University encourages students to think analytically and abstractly, to explore options, to see similarities, to be open to differences, to communicate effectively, and to respect each individual.

The major intellectual and cultural center for the region, the University enriches the quality of life for area residents of all ages through presentations of the performing and fine arts, community service, symposia, research initiatives, and partnerships with area schools, businesses and organizations.

Approved by USC Beaufort Faculty Organization

December 7, 2001

Approved by USC Board of Trustees

February 8, 2002

Revision approved by USC Beaufort Faculty Organization

February 20, 2004

Revision approved by USC President Andrew A. Sorensen

March 1, 2004

University of South Carolina Upstate

University of South Carolina Upstate aims to become one of the Southeast's leading "metropolitan" universities ... a university that acknowledges as its fundamental reason for being its relationship to expanding populations along the I-85 corridor. It aims to be recognized nationally among its peer metropolitan institutions for its excellence in education and commitment to its students, for its involvement in the Upstate, and for the clarity and integrity of its metropolitan mission.

As a senior public institution of the University of South Carolina with a comprehensive residential campus in Spartanburg and commuting and degree completion operations at the University Center of Greenville, the University's primary responsibilities are to offer baccalaureate education to the citizens of the Upstate of South Carolina and to offer selected master's degrees in response to regional demand.

USC Upstate strives to prepare its students to participate as responsible citizens in a diverse, global and knowledge-based society, to pursue excellence in their chosen careers and to continue learning throughout life. Curricula and services are designed for the University's students, four to seven thousand in headcount, who are diverse in background, age, race, ethnicity, educational experience and academic goals. Students are drawn in large proportion from the Upstate where many choose to remain for their careers. A broad range of major curricula are provided in arts and sciences and in professional fields of study required by the regional economy, including business, education, and nursing. Through on-site instruction, distance learning, continuing education and inter-institutional articulation agreements, both traditional students and working professionals are served across the region.

Consistent with the international character of the Upstate, the University promotes global perspectives across its programs. Supporting the regional employment objectives of most of its students, it provides extensive experiential learning opportunities.

The University's metropolitan mission rests upon a foundation of partnerships with the education, corporate and service organizations of the Upstate. The faculty provides leadership in promoting the Upstate's economic, social and cultural development. This is achieved through its teaching, professional and public service, basic and applied scholarship and research, and creative endeavors

Approved by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education, May 30, 2006. Approved by USC Board of Trustees, June 29, 2006.

Winthrop University

Winthrop University provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber within a context dedicated to public service to the State of South Carolina. All eligible bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, education, business and the visual and performing arts are nationally accredited – part of the University's commitment to be among the very best institutions of its kind in the nation.

Building on its origins as a women's college, the Winthrop University of the 21st century is achieving national recognition as a competitive and distinctive, co-educational, public, residential comprehensive teaching institution.

Winthrop enrolls an achievement-oriented, culturally diverse and socially responsible student body of 6,000 students and will remain a medium-sized comprehensive teaching university for the foreseeable future. The University recruits South Carolina's best students as well as highly qualified students from beyond the state whose presence adds diversity and enrichment to the campus and state. Winthrop prides itself on being an institution of choice for groups traditionally under-represented on the college campus.

Winthrop's historic campus, located in a dynamic city within a major metropolitan area, provides a contemporary and supportive environment that promotes student learning and development. Winthrop has a diverse and able faculty and professional staff of national caliber and supports their work as effective teachers, scholars, researchers, practitioners, and creative artists. Through this talented group, Winthrop students acquire and develop knowledge, skills, and values that enrich their lives and prepare them to meet the needs and challenges of the contemporary world, including the ability to communicate effectively, appreciate diversity, work collaboratively, synthesize knowledge, and adapt to change. Ongoing assessment of programs and services ensures both that all academic programs challenge students at their highest level of ability and that the library, instructional technology and other academic service areas support courses of study that are consonant with current methods and knowledge. As a result, Winthrop graduates are eminently well prepared to assume successful careers in business, industry, government, education, the arts, and human services, as well as to enter the most competitive graduate or professional schools.

(Adopted by the Winthrop University Board of Trustees - 6/12/98)

(Update Adopted by the Winthrop University Board of Trustees - 11/3/00)

University of South Carolina Lancaster

One of the five regional campuses of the University of South Carolina, the University of South Carolina Lancaster has grown since its inception in 1959 from a community dream into a vital public coeducational institution of higher learning. USC Lancaster is today a comprehensive learning center, offering high-quality University programs and services to approximately 1,200 full- and part-time students from a service area of six counties (Lancaster, Chester, Chesterfield, Kershaw, Fairfield, and York).

The Lancaster campus grants associate degrees in the arts, sciences, business, criminal justice, and technical nursing. Limited upper-division course work creditable toward baccalaureate degrees through the University is also offered by USC Lancaster's faculty. Graduate courses are available through the Extended Graduate Campus Office under the auspices of the USC Columbia Graduate School. Opportunity for area residents to pursue personal enrichment is also provided through regular programs and services and additional public service activities. USC Lancaster admits all students who show promise of academic success.

Most of USC Lancaster's students are first-generation college students from rural areas, small towns, and cities across the central Piedmont area of the Carolinas. Through a broad commitment to equity, an extensive scholarship and financial aid program, and a variety of weekday and evening course offerings, USC Lancaster seeks to make education accessible, affordable, and convenient to the residents of this region. With the considerable resources of the University, the many advantages of a small college setting, and the efforts of a talented faculty, staff, and administration dedicated to scholarship and teaching excellence, USC Lancaster strives to create a supportive educational climate that respects cultural and intellectual diversification, encourages innovation and adaptation, and responds affirmatively to the needs of its students. Students at USC Lancaster are helped to achieve the fundamental skills, knowledge, and capacity for critical thought necessary to pursue further learning, to succeed in their chosen career fields, and to assume the responsibilities of informed and enlightened citizenship in their communities and in the wider society.

Public service in the broadest sense is another important purpose of USC Lancaster. Through regular course offerings, continuing education programs, summer enrichment programs, and cultural events, USC Lancaster helps area residents obtain personal development, professional growth, and cultural enrichment. Through health fitness and recreation programs, USC Lancaster helps residents develop an appreciation of the interrelationship of physical health and overall personal wellness. Through its Child Development Center, USC Lancaster helps economically disadvantaged preschool children attain the physical, social, and intellectual development necessary for later success in school.

For USC Lancaster to meet the growing academic, professional, and personal aspirations of the residents of its area, it will continue to develop and expand its programs and services and provide access to the resources of the wider University of South Carolina.

Approved by the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees, April 1998

University of South Carolina Salkehatchie

USC Salkehatchie Campus values its role as a part of the University of South Carolina, bringing the programs, resources, and opportunities of the University to the local service area of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton, and Hampton Counties, along with the USC Salkehatchie mission of providing undergraduate and graduate coursework. The USC Salkehatchie service area is rural, economically depressed, and ranks low in most educational and quality of life indicators. Thus, the campus presence and the opportunities provided are extremely important, and the campus administration recognizes the need to integrate educational and economic development efforts in the service area.

USC Salkehatchie plays an important role in helping the University fulfill its priority of providing students with an educational experience of the highest quality, grounded in the traditional liberal arts. USC Salkehatchie acts as a resource to its five-county area by serving as a focal point for the cultural and intellectual development of the area through providing various cultural, intellectual, economic, and education programs. Its academic, community development, cultural, public service, and recreational programs and services reflect USC Salkehatchie's purpose to enhance and enrich the communities of its service area and to improve the quality of life of its citizens.

University of South Carolina Sumter

The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for the Sumter area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Sumter offers a varied curriculum rooted in the liberal arts and aimed at preparing students to continue their education in the university and throughout life. The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to begin or planning to complete a baccalaureate level education. While USC Sumter does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply because of the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain near 1000 FTE students.

The University of South Carolina Sumter was established to encourage higher education in Sumter and adjacent counties. It primarily serves students from Sumter, Lee, Clarendon, Williamsburg, and Kershaw counties. The design of the early institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demand of constituents.

The institution itself grants the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor degrees on campus through cooperative agreements with other institutions. Graduate education is coordinated at USC Sumter through the University's Graduate Regional Studies program. USC Sumter also provides access to a wide variety of baccalaureate degree programs on other campuses by teaching some courses that must be taken by students in these programs. The mission includes other appropriate upper division coursework as well as non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and for professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Sumter. In an atmosphere that develops respect for this diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Sumter promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which favor the development of men and women who continue learning throughout life.

The university emphasizes the development of the whole person. The institution especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. These include the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech, as well as quantitative competence, creative and critical thinking, and the integration of knowledge. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships contributing to a sense of self-reliance and self-esteem.

This statement was approved by the USC Sumter Faculty Organization March 6, 1998.

This statement was approved by the Dean of USC Sumter March 6, 1998.

This statement was approved by the Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Continuing Education.

This statement was approved by the USC Board of Trustees on April 23, 1998.

Last modified Friday April 16, 2004

University of South Carolina Union

In a sophisticated, democratic society, citizens must be literate, self-disciplined, and inquisitive. They must respect and enjoy critical thought and the search for truths. Therefore, the purpose of USC Union is to give the people of Union and surrounding counties an intellectual, social, cultural, and physical setting which challenges them to grow in many ways and to develop a desire for lifelong learning.

USC Union's primary purpose is to provide the first two years of a liberal arts university education to about 500 traditional and nontraditional students and to confer the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science degrees.

Through the USC campuses in Columbia and Spartanburg, USC Union also provides access to upper-division courses, for minorities, women, and older students, as well as for traditional students who wish to work toward and eventually receive baccalaureate degrees. Upper-division courses are taught both by USC Union faculty and by faculty from other USC colleges. USC Union provides graduate courses and degrees through the USC Extended Graduate Campus Program and the state's extensive telecommunications network.

USC Union sponsors a noncredit continuing education program for the enjoyment and enrichment of both children and adults.

Finally, USC Union provides effective orientation, counseling, and financial aid programs; a comprehensive placement testing program; a proactive system of academic advisement; and extracurricular programs for the benefit of all students. All of these programs help students to improve the following abilities:

- to communicate in a variety of ways, in a variety of settings, and for a variety of purposes
- to solve problems involving numbers and other kinds of quantitative measurement and to value quantification
- to understand the contributions of the arts and to integrate the arts into their lives in fulfilling ways
- to examine and clarify their values and motivations as well as those of others; to understand a variety of social institutions, and to function effectively within those institutions
- to understand the scientific method, to value objective inquiry, and to use wisely science and technology
- to recognize and adapt to the widespread use of computer technology in today's society
- to study, learn, reason, and apply knowledge and skills in creative ways.

Central to this purpose is a faculty dedicated to excellence in teaching, scholarship, institutional activities, and public service. USC Union supports faculty development activities that help maintain this excellence and improve its programs through institutional research, planning, and comprehensive faculty involvement in both campus and University affairs.

The University of South Carolina Union is a public multidimensional learning center of USC chartered to serve seven rural counties and committed to providing outreach, broad access, and a full range of USC programs and services.

Aiken Technical College

Vision

We envision Aiken Technical College as a premier scientific, academic, and technical education resource with a reputation as a major economic development force in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA).

Mission

Aiken Technical College is a public open-door two-year comprehensive institution of higher education established to provide the citizens of greater Aiken County opportunities for educational, economic, professional, social and personal development. The College educates and trains students to provide an effective work force to support economic growth and community stability through its focus on teaching and community service.

Purpose

Consistent with its mission and values, Aiken Technical College is dedicated to achieving the following institutional purposes in an exemplary manner:

Secure the resources needed to support a projected annual enrollment of 3,500-4,500 credit students and 10,000-12,000 non-credit students.

Offer associate degree, diploma and certificate programs which provide students with the knowledge and competencies necessary for initial entry into and advancement in engineering technology, industrial technology, information technology, health, environmental, business and social service careers.

Prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions.

Collaborate with secondary and four-year institutions to facilitate transition among educational entities.

Values

ATC's core values define the College and provide the environment for all decisions and actions. These core values are:

Education - Education is the key to individual improvement and community economic development in a complex technological society.

Commitment to Students - Students deserve the finest instruction, resources and services to enhance their growth and development.

Excellence - The College promotes excellence in personnel, programs and work environment while encouraging integrity, accountability and respect for individuals.

Community - Partnerships which develop solutions to community challenges are important to economic vitality and quality of life.

Diversity - Respect for diversity is an important part of the educational process.

© 2004 AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Central Carolina Technical College Mission

Central Carolina Technical College is a comprehensive, public, two-year institution of higher education that is dedicated to fostering a positive environment of teaching and learning for faculty, staff, and students. The College serves primarily the region of Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw, and Sumter counties in South Carolina and confers associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. College programs and student support services provide citizens, businesses, industries, and communities with quality, affordable, accessible, customer-responsive post-secondary education through life-long learning and specialized training opportunities specifically designed to develop the foundation for personal growth, economic development, and an improved quality of life.

The College's vast array of associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs prepares students to enter the job market, to transfer to senior colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. Specifically, Central Carolina offers academic programs in business, the health sciences, public service, industrial and engineering technology, and the arts and sciences. Through its comprehensive programs and support services, the College annually serves over 4,500 credit students and 10,500 continuing education students in both traditional and non-traditional formats.

(Revision Approved by the Central Carolina Technical College Area Commission, July 21, 2005 and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education on October 6, 2005)

Denmark Technical College

Denmark Technical College is a public, comprehensive, Historically Black, two-year technical college located in rural Bamberg County. The College annually serves approximately 2,000 credit and continuing education students, a mix of traditional, non-traditional, full-time and part-time. Denmark Technical College is the only technical college in the State of South Carolina with on-campus housing.

As a member of the South Carolina Technical College System, Denmark Technical College's mission is related to the educational mission of the State of South Carolina and the Technical College System.

The College's primary service area is comprised of Bamberg, Barnwell, and Allendale Counties with a legislated mandate to serve students throughout the state. As an open-door institution, the College provides affordable, post-secondary education culminating in associate degrees, diplomas, or certificates to citizens from diverse educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. The mission of Denmark Technical College is fourfold: 1) to provide students the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and maintenance of employment as technical, semi-professional, and skilled workers in engineering and industrial technologies, business, computer technologies, and public service; 2) to prepare students for transfer to senior institutions; 3) to provide graduates with competency in written and oral communications, computer literacy, information processing, mathematics, problem-solving and interpersonal skills necessary for life-long learning; and 4) to enhance the economic development and growth of the service area and the state.

Denmark Technical College pursues its mission within a student-centered environment based on the fundamental values of a commitment to excellence, fostering a positive learning process, well-balanced cultural and social experiences, an atmosphere of mutual respect, an understanding of and the ability to function in a technologically advanced world, and realization of the need for a strong work ethic.

The College seeks to fulfill its mission by offering the following programs using multiple instructional methods, including traditional lecture and lab and distance education through interactive video and satellite technology for both on-campus and off-campus instruction:

Florence-Darlington Technical College

The mission of Florence Darlington Technical College is to provide comprehensive technical education, workforce development, and educational services to students, business & industry, and the markets it serves. Through instructional programs, business & industry partnerships, and community involvement, the College will play a major role in the economic development and quality of life of its constituents. The educational experience at Florence-Darlington Technical College will have an international perspective, which will enhance the student's marketability in today's global economy.

Greenville Technical College

Mission Statement

Vision

Greenville Technical College's vision is to be an exemplary center for learning that enables student success and promotes economic development.

Mission

Greenville Technical College drives personal and economic growth through learning.

Role and Scope

Greenville Technical College is the largest public two-year college in South Carolina, serving a fall headcount of more than 14,000 curriculum students. The college provides exceptional learning opportunities primarily to the residents of Greenville County.

Curricular offerings include (1) technical courses, certificates, diplomas and associate degrees in business, computer technology, health sciences, engineering technologies, industrial technologies, and public service; and (2) university transfer courses and associate degrees.

The college also provides an extensive offering of continuing education courses for occupational advancement and personal interest, as well as economic development services that encourage business and industrial growth in a diverse economic community.

In addition, developmental courses serve under-prepared students seeking to enter a program of study. Upon completion of their educational goals, the majority of graduates either are employed in fields related to their programs of study or transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

Since the college is an open admission institution, students come from diverse socioeconomic and educational backgrounds. Affordable education is provided at times and locations convenient to students. Faculty and staff are student-centered, flexible, and recognized in their fields. Various educational support services are provided to facilitate the teaching/learning process and to enhance the academic and personal development of the student, including an emphasis on articulation with local high schools and other colleges and universities.

Values

Greenville Technical College is committed to the following values:

Learning: We are committed to providing quality learning opportunities that enable individual and community achievement and that are affordable and accessible for all members of our community.

Integrity: We believe trust is an essential element in a safe and effective learning environment, so we promote and foster openness, honesty, respect, and fairness.

Diversity: We recognize and celebrate diversity, so we value and support considerate, meaningful communication and inclusiveness in collaborative decision-making processes.

Cooperation: We value collaboration and teamwork, so we foster caring, professional relationships among students, employees, and our community in an effort to expand partnerships.

Excellence: We value continuous improvement, so we encourage innovation, creative problem-solving and responsible risk-taking as we act courageously, deliberately, and systematically to enhance and enrich our learning environment.

Accountability: We value students, faculty, and staff, so we recognize their contributions, encourage their professional development, and regularly evaluate performance to improve learning outcomes, programs, processes, and services.

Strategic Initiatives

Greenville Technical College achieves its mission by implementing the following strategic initiatives:

Focus on **student learning and experience** by providing exemplary student support services and teaching/learning environments and by exceeding customer expectations in all college processes.

Nurture and support an environment of caring **learning community** among our inclusive GTC family, with attention to wellness, security, personal growth opportunities, collegiality, and open communications.

Ensure optimal learning through **integral use of technology** in all college functions.

Demonstrate a commitment to continuous development of our **human resources**.

Use **reliable data** in the planning and generation of resources.

Focus on **corporate, economic, and community development**.

Horry-Georgetown Technical College

The mission of Horry-Georgetown Technical College is to provide accessible, affordable, high-quality, comprehensive two-year collegiate education and workforce training; to provide a student centered environment and inspire lifelong learning; to promote learning through exceptional teaching; to promote multicultural awareness and embrace diversity within the community; to promote economic development, and to lead in technological innovation.

Since its creation in 1966, Horry-Georgetown Technical College has continued to provide post-secondary vocational, technical, and occupational certificate, diploma and associate degree programs leading directly to securing or continuing employment; associate degree programs which enable students to gain access to other post-secondary education; and continuing education classes, programs, and services which meet the job training, occupational advancement, and lifelong learning needs of the residents and employers in its service area.

As a member of the South Carolina Technical College system, the College is a public, two-year technical college, currently enrolling in excess of 5,000 College credit curriculum students (fall headcount) and providing continuing education programs for over 10,500 residents (annual headcount) per year. Within this authority and while maintaining a local emphasis on providing services to the individuals and employers in the rural, urban and suburban areas of Horry and Georgetown Counties, certain academic programs serve regional, national, and even international needs. The College values partnerships with business, industry, community agencies and other educational and governmental institutions which support the growth and development of the community.

In order to promote achievement by ethnically, socially and economically diverse individuals, the College maintains open admissions. The College values inclusiveness and embraces diversity. The College provides students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary for success in achieving their career and educational goals.

The College endeavors to fulfill its mission by fostering the belief that all people should have equal opportunity for personal and professional growth, and to develop skills, knowledge, and values necessary for a productive and meaningful life. We respect every member of the college community and are committed to fairness in our educational endeavors.

The faculty's primary function is to ensure student learning and academic goal achievement through innovative teaching that integrates theory and application. The College provides comprehensive student services to support individual and educational goals. The specific functions of the College are to provide occupational training activities, College transfer education and related general education courses. The College provides developmental/-remedial educational services. Through articulation with local school districts, the College provides post-secondary educational opportunities for secondary students. A vital part of the educational services is through the Workforce Development and Continuing Education Division, which provides customized job training and occupational upgrading training programs and classes for business and industry, and job training, occupational upgrading, licensing and certification, and personal interest classes for community residents. The College supports the economic development of its service area by participating in the training provided by the Center for Accelerated Training and Technology.

Approved by the Area Commission, July 11, 2002
Reaffirmed, July 8, 2004

Midlands Technical College

Midlands Technical College is a comprehensive, multi-campus, public, two-year college serving the primary region of Richland, Lexington and Fairfield counties of South Carolina. College programs and services provide accessible, affordable, high quality post-secondary education that prepares a diverse student population to enter the job market, transfer to senior colleges and universities, and achieve their professional and personal goals. Through its programs and services, the college equitably provides higher education opportunities and strengthens the economic and social vitality of the community.

Northeastern Technical College

Northeastern Technical College provides occupational, technical, college transfer, basic academic skills, and continuing education programs with appropriate support services to meet the needs of individuals, businesses, and industries of Chesterfield, Marlboro, and Dillon counties and surrounding areas. Within this focus, the college contributes to economic growth by enhancing the employability of service area residents. The college is dedicated to providing quality programs which remain accessible to both traditional and nontraditional students through open admissions, reasonable costs, counseling, advertisement, financial assistance, and career development services. The college also provides personal growth and enrichment opportunities through community services, continuing education, and social and cultural activities.

Northeastern Technical College, an accredited post-secondary institution which is funded by county, state, federal, and student revenues, is one of the 16 technical colleges which constitute the South Carolina Technical College System.

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

The mission of Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (OCtech) is to provide quality and affordable comprehensive education programs that will have a positive social and economic impact on the lives of the citizens of Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties and the state of South Carolina.

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is an associate degree-awarding two-year public institution. As an open admissions institution, we serve students with diverse backgrounds and ability levels from a primarily rural region, enrolling approximately 2,900 – 3,300 credit students and 3,000 non-credit students annually. Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College values the quality and effectiveness of our programs, promoting ethical standards in all aspects of the College's operation. We seek success of each student in an environment that provides opportunity for lifelong learning in a complex, global society.

The College serves our community and our students in accordance with the following purposes:

Meeting the community's need for a literate and technically-competent work force by:

Offering associate degree, diploma and certificate programs in post-secondary, occupational and technical education in the following areas: Arts and Sciences, Business, Computer Technology, Health Sciences, Nursing, Public Service, and Industrial and Engineering Technology.

Providing students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes in areas of oral and written communication, problem-solving, use of cutting edge technology, and development of interpersonal skills through quality classroom delivery systems, innovative teaching methodologies, and multiple assessment measures for workplace competencies or for transfer to other institutions of higher learning.

Addressing the continuing education needs of individuals and employees for developing or upgrading skills and knowledge by providing specialized, directed courses that compliment both personal interests and job advancement.

Fostering student success by providing comprehensive student support services and learning experiences, including developmental studies, to help students identify and achieve specific personal and academic objectives.

Promoting access to educational opportunity by providing the means for overcoming economic, academic and other barriers.

Employing a systematic process of planning, implementing, and evaluating to ensure that educational and administrative activities are appropriate and effective to meet the needs of the students, the College, and the community.

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College 9 Projecting a positive public image as an important and unique part of higher education by maintaining effective partnerships, expanding financial resources, and disseminating accurate and effective public information.

Implementing relevant continuing education training programs that promote social and economic development through analyzing the strengths and needs of the community, and of new and existing businesses and industries.

Providing high quality facilities, equipment, and technology to support the College's programs and services.

BELIEFS:

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College pursues its mission through the following beliefs:

We believe in:

- Students as our priority
- Excellence in education
- Respect for diversity
- Valuable work skills that create opportunities
- Innovative technology
- Commitment to community
- Employees dedicated to quality.

Approved by the Orangeburg-Calhoun Area Technical Education Commission

January 28, 1998

Revised on November 19, 2003

Piedmont Technical College

Piedmont Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical and Comprehensive Education system, is a public comprehensive two-year post-secondary institution. Piedmont contributes to the economic growth and development of the largest and most diverse region of the technical college system, Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda counties and to the state. The college responds to the academic, training, and public service needs of the community through excellence in teaching and educational services. Piedmont has an open admissions policy and annually enrolls approximately 4,500 to 5,500-credit students. The college provides quality educational opportunities and accessibility for individuals with diverse backgrounds and ability levels to acquire the knowledge and skills for employment or the maintenance of employment in engineering technology, industrial technology, business, health, or public service or for transfer to senior colleges and universities. In addition to teaching technical skills, Piedmont provides graduates competencies in written and oral communication, information processing, mathematics, problem solving, interpersonal skills, and lifelong learning opportunities for residents within the service region.

The college offers the following programs utilizing state-of-the-art technologies:

Associate degrees in vocational, technical, and occupational areas and university transfer; vocational, technical and occupational diplomas and certificates; developmental education programs and courses preparing individuals to take the General Education Development Test, custom-designed Continuing Education training programs for business, industry, and facilities for the Special Schools program to train potential employees for new and expanding manufacturing companies; and Student Development programs which provide academic, career and individual support.

Piedmont Technical College pursues its mission based on the fundamental values and beliefs that:

Learning is a diverse and fundamental need for all residents of the seven county areas; Excellence is a process inherent to the college within instruction, support services, administration, and resource allocation. Accessibility and Affordability to higher education by all who have a desire to learn is crucial for continuous growth and improvement by communities and individuals. Quality and Innovation is fundamental to the continuous improvement of instruction, learning opportunities, support services, and management practices. Community partnerships with other educational entities, industries, and businesses are crucial for quality of life and economic development.

(Reaffirmed by The Area Commission, November 19, 2002.)

Spartanburg Community College

Vision

Spartanburg Community College is the innovative leader in providing relevant, accessible, and affordable educational programs and services to support and improve the economic vitality of our service community.

Mission

Spartanburg Community College is a public, suburban, two-year comprehensive, open-admission institution of higher education serving the citizens of the upstate counties of Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union in South Carolina. The College advances economic development of the region through programs, services and partnerships that address emerging and continuing employment needs in a rapidly changing global environment. Through excellence in teaching and learning, the College promotes lifelong learning and helps students reach their personal and professional goals.

Scope

Spartanburg Community College implements its mission through programs, services and partnerships that include

College-level credit programs—SCC serves 5,000 to 7,500 credit students annually through programs leading to associate degrees, diplomas and certificates designed for direct job placement, as well as associate degrees designed for transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

Continuing Education programs—SCC delivers catalog and customized short-term courses to 15,000-20,000 students annually. Continuing Education provides professional and career advancement programs and courses to business, industry, health care and government agencies. The college also offers noncredit courses for personal enrichment.

Developmental Education programs—SCC readies unprepared students to enter a program of study through courses that build academic skills and self-confidence.

Student Development programs—SCC offers a wide variety of student support services to nurture students' academic, personal and professional growth.

Values

At Spartanburg Community College, we believe in the worth of individuals and their potential for growth and development.

Values Pertaining to Students

We believe in

Encouraging students to reach their highest potential and to increase their self-esteem.

Stressing students' responsibility in taking an active role in their own learning, growth and development.
Fostering a caring environment appropriate for the personal and educational development of adult students.
Helping students acquire a work ethic appropriate to their career choice.
Promoting a desire for lifelong learning.
Instilling a sense of college pride in students.

Values Pertaining to Faculty and Staff

We believe in

Accomplishing the college mission through teamwork, effective communication, and personal accountability
Maintaining a climate of mutual trust and respect
Treating faculty and staff fairly
Giving employees personal responsibility for job performance
Developing professional potential of faculty and staff

Values Pertaining to Community

We believe in

Providing timely programs and services that meet the needs of students and area business and industry
Participating as a partner in the community's growth and development
Promoting interactive communication with the community to ascertain needs and distribute information about programs and services
Developing a continuum of educational opportunities by partnering with secondary and postsecondary institutions
Encouraging faculty and staff to serve as leaders and role models in the community
Being accountable to the community for effective use of resources

Approved by the Spartanburg County Commission for Technical and Community Education on November 20, 2006.

Approved by the South Carolina Commission for Higher Education on January 17, 2007.

Technical College of the Lowcountry

One of sixteen colleges comprising the South Carolina Technical College System, the Technical College of the Lowcountry traces its origin to the Mather School founded in 1868. The college is a comprehensive, public, two-year college dedicated to serving the diverse educational needs of the rural counties of Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper. The College annually serves approximately 8,500 credit and continuing education students, a mix of traditional, non-traditional, full-time, and part-time.

The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides quality, affordable academic and technical programs leading to Associate Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates in an environment fostering excellence in teaching and learning. The College prepares graduates with knowledge and skills for transfer to senior colleges and universities and for careers in computer technology, industrial technology, engineering technology, occupational technology, business, health sciences, and public service.

The College serves as an effective partner in the economic and human resource development of the Lowcountry. As an open admissions institution, the Technical College of the Lowcountry offers over 70 academic, transfer, and specialized programs. Offerings include developmental education; arts and sciences; career development; specialized, contract courses tailored for specific businesses and industries; and continuing education to meet the workforce needs of the Lowcountry. In addition to responding to local and regional needs of the area, the College recognizes that state, national, and international issues affect the lives of the citizens of the Lowcountry and responds to these issues appropriately.

In support of its educational programs and services the College offers comprehensive student development services to all who seek to better their lives through education. In an atmosphere of shared values, the College encourages creativity, innovation, and resourcefulness among its students, faculty, staff, and administrators. With a commitment to excellence, the Technical College of the Lowcountry creates a positive, student-centered environment. The College empowers individuals by enabling them to learn and to develop throughout their lifetimes.

Adopted by the TCL Commission, November 18, 2002

Approved by the Commission on Higher Education, January 9, 2003

Tri-County Technical College

MISSION

Tri-County Technical College is a public, two-year community college dedicated to serving as a catalyst for the economic and lifelong development of the citizens of Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties through outstanding programs and unparalleled service. An open admissions institution with primary focus on teaching and learning, the College serves approximately 6,000 to 7,000 students through both on-campus and distance learning courses. The College grants certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees in technical, career, and transfer programs. The College also offers certificates in continuing education programs.

VISION

Tri-County Technical College will be *the role model* for community college education through dedication to high standards, a nurturing environment, community alliances, and innovative leadership.

VALUES

At Tri-County Technical College, we value

Integrity—respect for the dignity, equality, and potential of self and others in personal and professional interactions

Responsibility—accountability in personal, professional, community, and fiscal affairs

Accessibility—equal opportunity to advance professionally and personally in a clean, safe, stimulating, and aesthetically pleasing environment

Collaboration—partnerships among students, faculty, staff, and community to promote open and effective communication, decision-making, and implementation of ideas and processes

Learning—facilitation of intellectual and technical growth through commitment to continuous improvement and innovation.

Trident Technical College

Trident Technical College is a public, two-year, multi campus institution which provides quality education and promotes economic development in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties. TTC is a member of the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education system.

As an open-door institution of higher education, the College provides lifelong learning opportunities for traditional and nontraditional students. These opportunities enhance the economic, social and cultural life of the community. Accessible and responsive to the needs of this multicultural community, TTC prepares students for a rapidly changing global environment.

Each semester approximately 12,000 credit students enroll in programs leading to college transfer associate degrees and technical associate degrees, diplomas and certificates. The curriculum includes programs in Allied Health Sciences; Business Technology; Community, Family and Child Studies; Culinary Institute of Charleston; Film, Media and Visual Arts; Humanities and Social Sciences; Industrial and Engineering Technology; Law-Related Studies; Nursing; and Science and Mathematics. To foster student success, TTC provides developmental education and comprehensive student services.

Using communication and problem-solving skills, graduates draw on knowledge from a broad range of disciplines to make decisions and perform tasks, working as individuals and as team members.

As a state and national resource, TTC provides continuing education courses, customized education and training for business, industry and government, and a variety of activities and services, including facilities for the Center for Accelerated Technology Training to offer employment training programs.

Institutional Values

The College pursues its mission guided by the following institutional values.

- The worth and dignity of each individual.
- The rich cultural and ethnic diversity of our students, faculty and staff.
A management and leadership philosophy defined by high ethical standards, open communication, teamwork, employee empowerment, and continual assessment and improvement of our processes and products.
- A faculty and staff dedicated and committed to serving diverse student and community needs.
- The academic freedom essential for teaching and learning; the self discipline and ethics essential for all professional activities and relationships.
- Lifelong learning and success for all students, faculty and staff.
- Educational innovation.
- Strict accountability for the effective and efficient use of all resources.
- A college environment that is safe and attractive as well as conducive to wellness and productivity.

Institutional Goals and Strategic Objectives

- To provide quality education and promote economic development by offering diverse and innovative credit and continuing education programs.
- To provide programs and services which promote success and enhance the quality of life for students.
- To continuously improve management systems and organizational structures.
- To communicate effectively with faculty, staff and students as well as with external constituencies, agencies and legislative bodies.
- To recruit, employ and retain a diverse, highly qualified faculty and staff, to provide competitive salaries, and to provide opportunities for professional growth and development.
- To acquire, build, renovate and maintain physical facilities; to acquire state-of-the-art equipment and technology; and to provide technical support services.
- To acquire adequate financial resources, to allocate them effectively and to ensure strict accountability.

Williamsburg Technical College

Williamsburg Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical and Comprehensive Education system, is a public, two year, associate, diploma and certificate granting institution with an average semester enrollment of over 500 students serving the county of Williamsburg, South Carolina. The mission of Williamsburg Technical College is to offer quality, affordable and accessible educational opportunities and experiences that enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills to achieve their goals and to encourage economic development in Williamsburg County. The college offers, to residents of Williamsburg County with varying academic skill levels, the opportunity for post-secondary vocational, technical, and occupational programs leading directly to employment or maintenance of employment in any of the county's manufacturing firms, specializing in textiles, plastics, or metal fabrication. Additionally, Williamsburg Technical College offers post-secondary vocational programs leading directly to employment or maintenance of employment in many of the county's service industries to include cosmetology, nursing, and automotive repair. Associate degree programs are also offered which enable students to gain access through transfer to other post-secondary education. Through curricular programs and extensive continuing education and special programs, and in cooperation with business and industry, the college attempts to produce ethical and skilled employees with leadership abilities who are also competent in their fields, capable of adjusting to change, and knowledgeable of current technological advances.

Williamsburg Technical College affirms the following values as guides for the institution to fulfill its mission, goals, philosophy and operational procedures.

The college is committed to:

Students: Belief in the capacity of individuals to be productive, to grow, and to achieve their highest potential.

Quality Education: Commitment to high standards for educational programs that enhance the personal, social, and economic potential of the individual.

Access: Commitment to educational access for all who are eligible and who have the desire and ability to benefit from program offerings.

Contribution to Community: Recognition of a partnership with and respect for cultural diversity in the community which supports local civic, economic, educational and cultural needs, and enriches the quality of community life.

Quality Work Environment: Commitment to instructional and organizational development which results in open communication and involvement in planning and decision making in an ethical environment.

York Technical College

York Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical and Comprehensive Education System, is a public, two-year, associate degree-granting institution. York Technical College seeks to contribute to the economic growth and development of York, Lancaster, and Chester counties and of the State. Through excellence in teaching and partnerships, the College responds to the technical and public service needs of the community. The College has an open admissions policy for qualified students and annually enrolls 5,500 to 6,000 credit students. York Technical College provides opportunities for individuals with diverse backgrounds and ability levels to acquire or upgrade the knowledge and skills necessary in engineering technology, industrial technology, information technology, business, health, or public service employment or for transfer to senior colleges and universities. In addition to teaching technical skills, the College seeks to provide graduates competency in written and oral communication, computer skills, mathematics, problem-solving, and interpersonal skills.

The College offers:

Associate degrees in the following areas:

- vocational
- technical
- occupational
- university transfer

Diplomas and certificates in the following areas:

- vocational
- technical
- occupational

Developmental and remedial education

Custom-designed continuing education for business and industry

The Center for Accelerated Technology Training to train potential employees for new and expanding manufacturing companies

Student development and lifelong learning opportunities

York Technical College pursues its mission based on these fundamental values:

LEARNING: The College is committed to addressing the diverse learning needs of the community in a student-centered environment.

EXCELLENCE: The College is dedicated to excellence in instruction, support services, and management of human and physical resources.

ACCESSIBILITY: The College is an open door institution of higher education for qualified students.

COMMUNICATION: The College recognizes and supports the importance of teamwork and communication both internally and externally.

COMMUNITY: The College believes in efficiently working with other educational systems, business, and industry to enhance economic growth and the quality of life for the people of the College's service area.

Approved by the York Technical College Commission, August 10, 2004

Approved by South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, November 4, 2004